

Message Text

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00341 231249 Z

41

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 NEA-10 AID-20 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 010794

R 230810 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 0341

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MI PO MZ

SUBJ: MALAWI/ PORTUGUESE RELATIONS

REF: A) BLANTYRE 710; B) LOURENCO MARQUES 307

1. COL. JACINTO FRADE, MOZAMBIQUE HIGH COMMAND SPOKESMAN IN LOURENCO MARQUES, TOLD CONOFF MAY 10 IN CONFIDENCE THAT FALSE RUMORE OF PORTUGUESE/ MALAWIAN CLASH WAS INTENDED TO HURT RELATIONS AND PROBABLY COOKED UP BY ALBERT MUWALO, MINISTER OF STATE IN OFFICE OF PRESIDENT. HE CONTINUES TO CITE REUTERS ACCOUNT OF AFFAIR AS MALAWI GOVERNMENT ADMIS- SION OF FRELIMO OPERATIONS FROM MALAWI (REF B).

2. AT MILITARY BRIEFING TO CONSULAR COPRS MAY 17 (REPORTED SEPARATELY), COL. FRADE APPEARED SOMEWHAT MORE AGGRESSIVE
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PAGE 02 LOUREN 00341 231249 Z

THAN USUAL RE MALAWI, SUGGESTING THAT SINCE IT FORMED STRATE- GIC " WEDGE" INSIDE MOZAMBIQUE, PORTUGUESE COULD NOT TOLERATE ACTIVITIES BASED MALAWI WHICH SHE MIGHT ACCEPT FROM ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA.

3. WHILE PORTUGUESE- MALAWI RELATIONS THUS STILL SEEM IN STATE OF FLUX, WE WONDER WHETHER JARDIM' S STANDING WITH PRESIDENT BANDA IS BECOMING AS UNCOMFORTABLE AS SUGGESTED BY CHARGE PROENCA (REF A), WHO PRESUMABLY HAS UNDERSTANDABLE LACK OF RELISH AT HAVING FOREIGN MINISTRY AND EMBASSY OUTFLANKED IN MALAWI' S DEALINGS WITH MOZAMBIQUE . SO FAR AS WE KNOW, JARDIM' S RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESIDENT BANDA IS BASED ON LONGSTANDING CLOSE PERSONAL TIES AND ON HIS VALUABLE SERVICES AS HONORARY MALAWI CONSUL AND AS OCCASIONAL UNOFFICIAL ADVISOR TO PRES. BANDA ON PORTUGUESE- MALAWI PROBLEMS. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY BANDA (OR PORTUGUESE THEMSELVES) WOULD DESIRE SEVER THIS DIRECT LINK WITH MOZAMBIQUE, WHICH HAS PROVED SO MUTUALLY USEFUL IN THE PAST.

VAN OSS

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NMAFVVZCZ

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